EDINBURGH, 28*th November* 1866.

THE Annual General Meeting of the ASSOCIATION FOR THE BETTER ENDOWMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, will be held at the Hall of the Royal College of Physicians, No. 9, Queen Street, on Friday next, the 30th inst., at Four o'clock.

J. MUIR, D.C.L., LL.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BETTER ENDOWMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, to be laid before the Annual General Meeting of the Association, on Friday the 30th of November 1866.

THE General Committee appointed at the Annual General Meeting of 29th November 1865 met on the 11th of December following, when, after nominating an Acting Committee for the year 1865-6, in terms of the 6th Section of the Constitution, they remitted to the Acting Committee to take measures for giving effect to the Resolutions passed at the Annual General Meeting of 1865, and in particular to prepare the draft of a Trust-Deed for the Foundation of the proposed Hamilton Fellowship, and to consider in what form the establishment of the Association's Classical Fellowship should be carried out, and draw up such a document for the purpose as should appear necessary. It was also remitted to the Acting Committee to consider and report upon the subject of two Conditions for the Fellowships, which were not contained in the Annual Report, but were suggested at the Annual General Meeting, and referred to the Committees for consideration. The first of these, which was applicable to both Fellowships, was proposed by the Honorary Secretary, and was as follows :—

"Provided that, in the case of both these Fellowships, "a further Condition be annexed, that if, on the occasion of the "competition, in any year, the Examiners shall, after examina-"tion, be of opinion that none of the Candidates has shown a "sufficiently high proficiency in the subjects of examination "to merit the Fellowship, they shall report their opinion to the

" Senatus Academicus, who shall decide whether the Fellow-
" ship shall be awarded in that year, or reserved for competition
" in the following year."

The second Condition was proposed by the Rev. Dr. Hanna, and was applicable only to the Hamilton Fellowship. It was as follows :—

" That it shall be open to the Senatus, with the approval of
" the University Court, at any time to alter the date of com-
" mencement, and the term of continuance, so as to secure an
" equal distribution of Fellowships in the same department,
" and to have one or more of these for each succeeding year."

These two Conditions, and various minor Regulations for the two Fellowships, which by the recommendations of the Annual Report of 1865, as adopted by the Association, were left to the decision of the Committees, were carefully considered by them, both at their own meetings and in consultation with a Committee of the Senatus Academicus, appointed at the request of the Association to confer with your Committees, and advise them on various details. Finally, it was resolved that, as advised by the majority of the Committee of the Senatus, the Condition proposed by Mr. Muir should not be adopted. The grounds upon which this determination was arrived at were, that it was unlikely that such a case as was supposed would occur, and that any risk of it was more than counterbalanced by the advantage of its being certain that a presentation to the Fellowship would be made on each occasion of a competition, it being the opinion of the majority of the Committee of the Senatus that any uncertainty as to the presentation being made to some one of the Candidates would act prejudicially, by deterring well qualified competitors from entering upon the competition, from mistrust of their own powers, and a consequent dread of being publicly declared incompetent for a Fellowship. It is right to state that this matter was the subject of much and repeated deliberation in both Committees, and that although the decision adopted was

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recommended by a majority of the Committee of the Senatus, and of your Acting Committee, it was only finally carried in the General Committee by the casting vote of the Chairman of the meeting at which the matter was decided.

The Condition proposed by the Rev. Dr. Hanna was also the subject of anxious deliberation. It was finally resolved not to adopt it, on the ground of the advantage of certainty that the presentation to the Fellowship would be made at a time known to intending competitors even for several years before a competition. At the same time, provision was, to a certain extent, made for the important objects aimed at by Dr. Hanna's proposal, by the clause adopted by the Association, and standing as clause 5 in the Conditions stated in the Deed of Endowment, which provides a power of extension of the term of tenure to four years; and also by a clause which the Committee adopted (clause 16 of the Conditions in the Deed), under which a certain power is given to the Senatus, after the lapse of twenty-five years, to alter the fourth clause so far as to limit or extend the number of years of standing as Graduates, of competitors for the Fellowship.

It is unnecessary to enter in detail upon the other Conditions which were the subject of deliberation before the Committees. The result is already known to the members of the Association, printed copies of the Deed of Foundation having been sent to every member.

The sum of £700, subscribed towards the Foundation by the contributors to the Hamilton Memorial, was paid to the Acting Committee on 4th January 1866, and at a meeting held on the 12th of April following, the Association being then in a position to provide the sum of £1800, necessary to the implement of the agreement with the contributors to the Hamilton Memorial, the Deed of Foundation was signed by a majority and quorum of the Acting Committee. The Deed having been recorded by direction of the Committee, the Extract was forwarded to the Senatus Academicus on 5th May last, along

with the receipt for the amount of the fund as deposited in the Union Bank by direction of the Acting Committee. The following acknowledgment was received from the Senatus :—

University of Edinburgh,
26*th May* 1866.

Sir,—I laid your letter of the 5th inst. before the Senatus at their meeting yesterday. The Deed of Endowment of the Hamilton Fellowship was also laid before the Senatus, and ordered to be engrossed in their Minutes.

I am instructed to inform you that the Senatus thankfully accept the Foundation, and agree to carry its provisions into effect.—I remain, etc.,

Philip Kelland, *Sec. Sen.*

John Muir, Esq., D.C.L., LL.D.

The first Competition for the Fellowship is to take place after the period of Graduation in Arts in the present Session.

The Classical Fellowship, to the institution of which the Association devoted £300 of its annual funds, was established, not by a Trust-deed, which seemed an unnecessary formality, but by a Special Minute of the Acting Committee, by which that sum was set aside for the support of the Fellowship, and the conditions of its award and tenure were fixed. These, with the necessary alterations to suit the different nature of the Fellowship, were founded upon those prescribed for the Hamilton Fellowship, but as a printed copy of the Special Minute has been sent to every member of the Association, it is unnecessary to repeat those conditions here. The Special Minute was signed, on the same occasion as the Deed of Foundation of the Hamilton Fellowship (12th April 1866), by the chairman of the meeting; and the Acting Committee then directed the sum of £300, appropriated to the Fellowship, to be deposited in the Royal Bank, in the names of the Honorary and Acting Secretaries. An extract of the Special Minute, signed by the Chairman of the meeting, was forwarded to the Secretary of the Senatus Academicus on the 16th April, and information was at the same time given of the arrangement made by the Committee in regard to the fund for the Fellowship.

The Competition for this Fellowship took place on the 30th and 31st of October last, and the Committee have received the following communication on the subject from the Examiners, Professors Blackie and Sellar :—

26th November 1866.

THE Competition for the Association Classical Fellowship was combined with that for the Guthrie Classical Fellowship, and took place on Tuesday the 30th, and Wednesday 31st of July, when several Candidates came forward. The Guthrie Fellowship being the most valuable, was awarded to the best among all the Candidates, Mr. George Watson. For the Association Fellowship we recommended Mr. James Stewart to the Senatus, as being the best among the Candidates who were already Graduates of the University.

It was a matter of regret to us, that, from the terms of the Minute of the Acting Committee, limiting the competition to actual Graduates, we considered ourselves debarred from taking into account, for the Association Fellowship, the merits of other Candidates, who were eligible for the Guthrie Fellowship under the terms of that Foundation.

The examination was on the whole satisfactory. All the Candidates appeared to us to have considerable merit. We were satisfied, from the examination, that the institution of these Fellowships has already done much to encourage Classical scholarship, and to induce students to extend their reading of the best Classical authors considerably beyond the range of study attained in the College classes, and required for ordinary graduation. From what we know of the spirit animating many of our present students, which has received a great impulse from the institution of these Fellowships, we most confidently anticipate still more satisfactory results in future competitions.

JOHN S. BLACKIE.
W. Y. SELLAR.

In accordance with the instructions of the General Committee, the Acting Committee carefully revised the Circular of Information and Subscription List of the Association, bringing the information down to the latest date possible. Copies of this paper have been circulated among the members of the Association and others who, it was thought, would be interested in its proceedings.

The Foundation of the Hamilton Fellowship and the institution of the Association's Classical Fellowship have nearly exhausted the funds. This will appear from the following Statement of the accounts as at Martinmas last, 1866, prepared by Mr. William Wood, C.A., whose kindness in acting as Honorary Auditor of the Association the Committee beg again to acknowledge.

STATEMENT OF THE FUNDS, prepared by Mr. WILLIAM WOOD, C.A.

		Annual Funds.	Donations and Life Subscriptions.
Balances at 11th November 1866,		£211 15 0	£1,724 16 5
During the year, to 11th November 1866, the Income was as follows :—			
Sum handed over from the Hamilton Memorial Fund,			700 0 0
Other Donations and Life Subscriptions,			78 15 0
Annual Subscriptions,		138 5 0	
Interest,		51 13 9	
Totals,		£401 13 9	£2,503 11 5
Whereof—			
Appropriated and handed over to the Principal of the University and others in Trust for the Hamilton Fellowship,			2,500 0 0
Interest on the Hamilton Fellowship Fund, from date of appropriation to date of payment to Senatus,	£10 13 6		
Lodged in separate Deposit-Receipt in names of Honorary and Acting Secretaries for Classical Fellowship,	300 0 0		
		£310 13 6	
Remains,		£91 0 3	£3 11 5
Expenses, year to 11th November 1866 :—			
Printing,	£19 7 6		
Postages and Distribution of Circulars,	1 19 6		
Collector's Commission,	5 3 11½		
Stationery,	0 12 0		
Miscellaneous,	5 9 1		
Allowance to Acting Secretary for the year,	21 0 0		
Arrears, 1864-65, not recovered,	1 1 0		
	£54 13 0½	£51 1 7½	£3 11 5
Remains,		£39 18 7½	
Met thus—			
Balance in Royal Bank,	£60 12 10		
Less balance due to the Secretary,	20 14 2½		
		£39 18 7½	

The Committee have no reason to anticipate any diminution of annual subscriptions, which amounted last year to £140. Indeed, they hope that many persons interested in the University of Edinburgh, but who have not yet contributed to the funds of the Association, may be induced to give it their support, now that its operations have issued in the actual foundation of one permanent Fellowship, and the establishment of a second out of annual income. As the expenses of the next year cannot be very considerable, the Committee hope to be in a position at next Annual General Meeting to propose the institution of a second Fellowship of the description last mentioned. The institution of such a Fellowship every second year, however, is a result with which it is impossible to be satisfied; and the very least at which the supporters of the Association should aim, is such an increase of their resources as would enable them to set apart £300 for a Fellowship in every year.

Since last Annual General Meeting no new Foundations in the University have been announced; but of the Endowments referred to in the last Annual Report, as in prospect of being instituted, the following have now been founded:—(1.) The Baxter Scholarship of £60 a year, for eminence in the Experimental Sciences; (2.) the Baxter Scholarship of £60 a year, for eminence in the Natural Sciences; and (3.) the Guthrie Classical Scholarship. The latter was competed for at the same time as the Association's Classical Fellowship, and was gained by Mr. George Watson, who had previously distinguished himself as a pupil of the Edinburgh Academy. In addition to the above, the fund left to the University for the Maxton Scholarship in Divinity has recently become available, and the Scholarship will therefore be founded in a short time.

The arrangements for the Shaw Fellowship are making satisfactory progress. The funds will exceed £3800 at the close of the current year, and the terms of the Fellowship are likely to be settled in the course of a few months.

The subscribers to the Memorial in honour of the late Dr. Hugh Falconer expect to have above £1700 in hand by the end of this year for the Foundation of the intended Falconer Fellowship in Natural Science. This sum it is intended shall be accumulated till, with interest, and such additional subscriptions as may be received, it amounts to £2000, when the Fellowship will be founded. The subscriptions to this Fund have been obtained almost entirely among the friends of Dr. Falconer in London and India, and the Committee commend this Foundation to the attention of those especially who are interested in the particular objects which its founders contemplate.

The Committee have much pleasure in informing the members of the Association that the Edinburgh University Club of London, a society composed of Graduates of the University of Edinburgh, have shown their interest in their University by sending a contribution of £10, 10s. from their funds to the Association. It is greatly to be desired that such clubs should be established in various parts of the country, in order that the Graduates of the University of Edinburgh, who are to be found in every part of the Empire, may have an opportunity of showing that their *Alma Mater* has not been forgotten by them. The benefit, both direct and indirect, which might thus result to the University can hardly be over estimated.

The Committee desire again to express their opinion of the importance of the Association, as an institution calculated to give publicity to the requirements of the University, and to press them upon the attention of official persons and other gentlemen of influence. It is only by continually calling public attention to the poverty of the University Endowments that any progress can be made in procuring their augmentation, either from private liberality or from the public funds.

The Committee think that much might be done to keep the wants of the University before the public, by the Professors and others interested taking every opportunity of drawing attention to the special requirements of their own departments,

and urging the Foundation of Fellowships, etc., for the purpose of encouraging proficiency in the several branches of literature and science which the different Chairs were instituted to advance. It is only by such efforts that the various wants of the University can be brought home to the understanding of the public generally. It is to be feared that the requirements of the several departments of the University are apt to be disregarded from a want of sufficient attention to details, and that the Foundations already in existence are thought by some to be sufficient, while the fact is, that nearly all the Endowments which have as yet been provided are confined to the Faculty of Arts, and are utterly inadequate to supply that stimulus to exertion which is required in the various departments of that Faculty alone, while, with a very few exceptions, the Faculties of Divinity, Medicine, and Law are left unfurnished with those liberal rewards of merit which ought to be offered to high proficiency.

In conclusion, the Committee have again to record their acknowledgment of the kindness of the President and Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians in giving the use of their rooms for the transaction of the business of the Association.

In accordance with the terms of the 5th section of the Constitution of the Association, office-bearers for the ensuing year must be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

In name and by authority of the General Committee,

J. MUIR, D.C.L., LL.D.,
Honorary Secretary.

EDINBURGH, 26*th November* 1866.